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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

Tab 4, 5

State Department review completed

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3 JUL 1948

GENERAL

1. Bevin's explanation for Robertson letter to Sokolovsky--US Ambassador Douglas reports from London that Foreign Secretary Bevin considers that his commitment to the House of Commons made necessary a reply from General Robertson to Marshal Sokolovsky. Douglas adds that after Robertson's letter has been sent the UK will be free to cooperate with the US "to the fullest extent."

The Department of State has informed Douglas that any additional delay after the dispatch of the British letter to Sokolovsky would be "most dangerous" and that the US could not agree to such delay. The Department expressed the view to Douglas that Britain's changes in position have given an impression of "vacillation and indecision."

2. UK suggests dispatch of B-29's be deferred--Ambassador Douglas also reports that, while the movement of US B-29's to Britain has the UK Government's full approval, the UK Cabinet believes that the transfer of the planes should be delayed in order not to give the USSR "an excuse for sending military reinforcements to the west."

EUROPE

3. YUGOSLAVIA: Possible attempt to probe US attitude--US Charge Reams reports that he was approached by a Yugoslav Communist official who is close to Minister Djilas (top-ranking Cabinet officer who with Tito and two others was recently attacked by the Cominform). Reams believes that source may be a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Reams is convinced that source was well briefed and had the blessing of the top authorities, although source professed to speak as a private individual. During the conversation, source said: (a) Yugoslav officials could not understand

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why the US had not softened its attitude during the past six months since they had assumed it "would have been aware of increasing tensions between Yugoslavia and the USSR"; (h) the US press and radio should be careful not to offer glowing promises of future aid to Yugoslavia or not to make violent attacks on Tito, because either action would make most difficult "the steps which the Yugoslav Communist Party hoped to be able to take"; and (i) Yugoslavia was extremely anxious to "liquidate" the Greek situation and would give no more aid to the Greek guerrillas. Source also inquired as to the US attitude in the event that Yugoslavia asked to participate in the European recovery program.

4. BULGARIA: Attitude toward relations with Greece--Bulgarian Foreign Minister Kolarov has told US Minister Harbo that, as a condition to the resumption of diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Greece, Bulgaria would insist that Greece renounce all claims on Bulgarian territory. Kolarov categorically stated, however, that Bulgaria would not similarly renounce its claims to Greek territory, but would seek to realize them by peaceful means in the "atmosphere of friendliness which should develop from the resumption of relations between the two countries."

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

5. SAUDI ARABIA: Pan-Islamic war against Israel foreseen--US Minister Childs in Jidda has been told by the Saudi Arabian Deputy Foreign Minister that no Arab government will accept a Jewish state in Palestine. The Deputy Foreign Minister added that: (a) Pakistan had recently sent word it was prepared to furnish forces for the Palestine war; and (b) if the struggle continued, "it would develop from a Pan-Arab to a Pan-Islamic one, the consequences of which would be hard to foresee." (Preliminary steps have already been taken in Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan to send volunteers, supplies, and financial aid, respectively, to support the Arab cause in Palestine.)

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